

#### § 1.551-4

the M Corporation as an actual dividend or as a constructive dividend under section 555.

#### § 1.551-4 Information in return.

The information required by section 551(d) in the returns of certain United States shareholders relates only to the taxable year of a foreign personal holding company for which any part of such corporation's undistributed foreign personal holding company income must be included in gross income by the United States shareholder of whom the information is required. The information shall be submitted as a part of the income tax return in the form of a statement attached to the return.

#### § 1.551-5 Effect on capital account of foreign personal holding company and basis of stock in hands of shareholders.

(a) Sections 551(e) and 551(f) are designed to prevent double taxation with respect to the undistributed foreign personal holding company income.

(b) The application of sections 551(e) and 551(f) may be illustrated by the following examples:

*Example 1.* The M Corporation is a foreign personal holding company. Seventy-five percent in value of its capital stock is owned by A, a citizen of the United States, and the remainder, or 25 percent, of its stock is owned by B, a nonresident alien individual. For the calendar year 1954 the M Corporation has an undistributed foreign personal holding company income of \$100,000. A is required to include \$75,000 of such income in gross income as a dividend in his return for the calendar year 1954. The \$100,000 is treated as paid-in surplus or as a contribution to the capital of the M Corporation and its accumulated earnings and profits as of the close of the calendar year 1954 are correspondingly reduced. If after treating such \$100,000 as paid-in surplus or as a contribution to capital, the M Corporation has no accumulated earnings and profits at the close of 1954, and if for the calendar year 1955, the M Corporation had no earnings and profits, but distributed \$40,000, the amount so distributed would be a nontaxable distribution and would not be included in the gross income of either A or B for the calendar year 1955. If, however, after treating the \$100,000 as paid-in surplus or as a contribution to capital, the M Corporation had accumulated earnings and profits of \$100,000 at the close of 1954, the facts otherwise being the same, the distributions in 1955 would be taxable to A as a dividend, and the taxability of such distributions to B would depend upon the application of section

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861(a)(2), relating to the treatment of dividends from a foreign corporation as income from sources within or without the United States.

*Example 2.* In example 1 assume the basis of A's stock to be \$300,000. If A includes in gross income in his return for the calendar year 1954, \$75,000 as a dividend from the M Corporation, the basis of his stock would be \$375,000. After the nontaxable distribution of \$30,000 to A by the M Corporation in 1955 (75 percent of the \$40,000 distribution) the basis of A's stock, assuming no other changes, would be \$345,000. If A failed to include the \$75,000 as a dividend in gross income in his return for 1954 and his failure was not discovered until after the 6-year period of limitations had expired, the application of the rule would not increase the basis of A's stock. The subsequent nontaxable distribution of \$30,000 to A in 1955 would reduce his basis of \$300,000 to \$270,000, thus tending to compensate for his failure to include the amount of \$75,000 as a dividend in his gross income for 1954. If the undistributed foreign personal holding company income of the M Corporation is readjusted within the statutory period of limitations, thus increasing or decreasing the amount A would have to include in his gross income, proper adjustment is required to be made to the basis of A's stock on account of such readjustment.

#### § 1.552-1 Definition of foreign personal holding company.

(a) A foreign personal holding company is any foreign corporation, other than a corporation exempt from taxation under subchapter F (section 501 and following), chapter 1 of the Code, and other than certain banking institutions which satisfy the requirements of section 552(b)(2) and paragraph (b) of § 1.552-4 which for the taxable year meets (1) the gross income requirement specified in section 552(a)(1); and (2) the stock ownership requirement specified in section 552(a)(2). Both requirements must be satisfied with respect to each taxable year.

(b) A foreign corporation which comes within the classification of a foreign personal holding company is not subject to taxation either under section 531 or section 541. See sections 532(b)(2) and 542(c)(5). The fact that a foreign corporation is a foreign personal holding company does not relieve the corporation from liability for the taxes imposed generally upon foreign corporations, such as the taxes imposed by sections 881 and 882, since